Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of June 16 - June 20, 2008

- 1. **Maryland Municipal League Conference:** The entire City Council and several City staff will be attending the Annual Maryland Municipal League Conference in Ocean City Sunday, June 22, through Wednesday, June 25. Sessions at the conference will cover a wide variety of topics important to municipalities. Networking with other municipal officials from around the State, as well as with key staff of State agencies, is a particularly important benefit of this annual event. Because the Council will be attending the conference, there will be no June 23 City Council meeting. (*Deputy City Manager*)
- 2. **Renters' Tax Credit Program Applications Available:** Are you a renter with a fixed income? You may be eligible to receive a tax credit by filing an application with the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation Eligibility for the 2008 Maryland Renters' Tax Credit Program is based on your household income and the amount of your rent. For example, if you are 60 years or older and have a gross income of \$25,000 or less and have a rent that is higher than \$795, you may qualify to receive a credit. Applications can be obtained by calling (301) 891-7222 or accessing the state's website at www.dat.state.md.us. The deadline for filing an application is September 1, 2008. (Housing and Community Development)
- 3. Landlord Certification Class Held June 19: Thirteen landlords attended the landlord certification class held by the Housing staff on June 19. Landlords are required to take this course every three years to maintain their rental license in Takoma Park. Staff reviews rental licensing requirements, the landlord-tenant law, rent stabilization, the tenant opportunity to purchase law and other services that the city offers in partnership with Montgomery County. Real estate agents and prospective purchasers of rental property in Takoma Park are strongly encouraged to attend this very informative class. For further information, call (301) 891-7119. (Housing and Community Development)
- 4. **Snapshots:** The newest edition of Takoma Snapshots is now airing on City TV, and will be available for viewing on the website soon. Features this month include: Takoma Park Police Officer of the Year, Annual House & Garden Tour, Gear Up For Safety, Art in the Community Center: Reflected Glories, and Soapbox Derby. *(City TV)*
- 5. **JazzFest**: City TV staff covered both stages of the wildly successful re-located Takoma JazzFest on Sunday, June 15th. Numerous performances were recorded and should start airing on City TV in July. (City TV)
- 6. **The Poetry Series:** City TV staff taped the Poetry Series held on June 19th, and will be recording the Drummers Circle at Friday's Function at the Junction. *(City TV)*
- 7. **Dedication Ceremony:** City TV video crews and a city photographer covered the Turning Point Mural Dedication Ceremony on Monday, June 16th. *(City TV)*
- 8. **Promoting November Elections:** Communications Office staff attended a meeting at the Council of Governments office on Friday with the Election Officials COG group to discuss ways to promote the November elections. The Elections Officials invited Public Information Officers (PIOs) from the region to brainstorm ways to get out information about registering to vote, polling places and times, absentee ballot procedures and transportation to polls. (City TV)

9. **A Turning Point:** On June 17, a collaboration of community based partners, including the Maryland International Corridor CSAFE, Arts on the Block, Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers, the Montgomery and Prince Georges's County Police Departments, the Prince George's Arts Council and the Northwest Park/Oakview Weed and Seed Program celebrated the Turning Point Mural Completion at a Dedication Ceremony with over 100 people in the Northwest Park Apartments Community. Both County Executives, Jack Johnson and Ike Legget, as well as Senators Jamie Raskin and David Harrington spoke eloquently about the significance of this project. CSAFE would like to thank all those who assisted in making this project come to fruition! (*Police*)

10. Officers in Meetings:

- On June 17, there was a promotional ceremony held for Sgt. Poole, Sgt. Smith, Cpl. Conrad, Cpl. Holmes and Cpl. Pedersen. Various members of the Council, including the Mayor, Police Department and City employees were in attendance.
- On June 18, CSAFE facilitated their regular HEAT Team meeting. Detective Cannatella and Ms. Kyleen Luy from the Takoma Park Police Department were in attendance.
- On June 19, Chief Ricucci attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting. Also on the 19th, Chief Ricucci and Ms. Pullet attended a luncheon in honor of Crossing Guard service for the 2007-08 school year. (*Police*)
- 11. **Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 127 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, seven (7) vehicle impounds, five (5) Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrests, two (2) Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests and 12 other arrests.

During the week of June 10-17, 2008, the following details were completed:

June 10, 2008

- 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations and two (2) warnings.

June 13, 2008

- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) state citation and two (2) warnings.

June 14, 2008

- Houston Avenue and Kennebec Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a two (2) hour detail and issued no citations or warnings.

June 17, 2008

- Takoma Avenue and Fenton Street (stop sign) conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued two (2) warnings. (Police)
- 12. **Summer Quest:** 130 enthusiastic children enrolled in the Library's interactive summer reading program during its first week. *(Library)*
- 13. **Wonderful Ones!:** This new program series for babies 12 to 24 months and their grown ups will be held every Wednesday morning in July at 10:00 AM in the Library. Space is limited. Register by calling 301-891-7259, or online at www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html. (Library)

- 14. **Successful Interviewing!:** Learn everything about how to prepare for a job interview in this program sponsored by MontgomeryWorks with the Library. Presented Thursday July 3rd. From 1:30 to 4:30 p.m in the Takoma Park Community Center. Register online at www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or by calling the Library. Space is limited. (*Library*)
- 15. **Computer Workshops:** The Friends and the Library are sponsoring some fun computer workshops for kids ages 9 13 in the Computer Center, led by our new computer coach, CMA Medeiros. Both sessions of the Photo Art Quest are filled and have a waiting list. There are still a few spaces left in the Comic Art Quest (produce your own online stories), August 4-8 from 9AM till noon. Call the library for information or register online at www.takomaparkinfo/library/registration.html. (*Library*)
- 16. **Counselor in Training Program:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department is offering a counselor in Training Program this summer for youth in 9th and 10th grade. We have a great group of young ladies working with us this year. They are Krystal Douglas, Rebecca Glaser, Kaitlyn Hague, Nina Moore, Elizabeth Raskulinecz and DeAndra Brown. They will be wearing red shirts with CIT on the back. Please take time to stop and welcome them when you see them. They have been involved in training this week touching on such topics as Group Leadership, Games, Supervision of Children, and trip training. Next week they will be working with the camp counselors in Camp Takoma and Camp Recess learning how to be safe and effective counselors. (Recreation)